

# Wasatch Co. Building Survey

Name of Building: Bengt Peterson Cabin <sup>& Homestead</sup>

Information Required	Date Found
Location:	
Address:	Town: <u>Lake Creek</u>
Architect:	
Builders:	
Building Material:	
Style of Building:	
Date Built:	
Original Owners:	
FGS	
Pedigree	
Histories	
Pictures	
Subsequent Owners:	
Notes:	
References: 1. <u>HBCM pp 1077, 1048-9</u>	
2. <u>"History of Lake Creek" by</u>	

## BENGT PETERSON

The Peterson or Persson family came from Sweden as converts to the LDS Church. Bengt's father's given name was Per or Pehr, so according to Swedish customs Bengt's surname would be Persson or Pehrson, but on reaching America he couldn't make people understand this. Everyone seemed to want to call him Peterson so he gave up trying to make them understand and resigned to the name "Peterson." His first wife's name was Maria. She was born in Sweden in 1827 and died there in 1852. His second wife Johanna Johnson was born in Hoxerod, Sweden. She never lived on Lake Creek. She died in Heber, Utah 4 April, 1877. She and Bengt Peterson or Peterson had the following children: John Peter born 24 June, 1859, in Remoseia, Sweden and married Julia Margaret Fraughton; Eliza Mary born 10 May, 1861 in Remoseia, Sweden and married George Homer Fraughton; Jens August born 26 April, 1864 in Remoseia, Sweden and married Leah Williamson; Amanda Betty born 13 March 1867 in Remoseia, Sweden and married Harvy Meeks; Adolph Fred born 23 June, 1869 in Halsingburg, Sweden and married Lucy Mass; Emma Sarah born 16 Oct. 1872 in Rockport, Summit Co., Utah and married Heber A. Butters.

His third wife was Albertina Larson and she was born 15 Jan. 1847 in Svenstorp, Hal-land, Askome, Sweden. She died 9 July, 1932 in Salt Lake City, Utah and was buried in the Heber City Cemetery 12 July, 1932. Their children were: Martha Maria born 10 July, 1878, married Rone Olmstead; Emily Ann Josephine born 8 Dec. 1879; Arvid Wil- liam born 6 Nov. 1880; Johanna born 31 Oct. 1881; Joseph Hakan born 31 Oct. 1882; Hyrum Benjamin born 17 Dec. 1883; Lars Albert born 12 June 1885; Abraham and Isaac (twins) 28 April 1886; Clara Anna Christina born 21 June, 1887; Jacob Frank- lin born 2 August 1889; and Brigham born 14 Sept. 1890.

Bengt Peterson and his family settled on 1077

1078

HOV

Lake Creek east of Heber. Their home was located about a mile above the Lake Creek red sandstone quarry. The log house was long and deep, and had windows with small panes of glass. Behind the house was a spring of cold water, which the youngsters flocked around after a game of ball or active play. Deep drinks of the spring's bubbling offerings were pleasant refreshment at any time.

Later Bengt Peterson sold his Lake Creek farm and moved to Buysville or Daniel and bought a smaller place there. He then moved to Provo and lived in the Second Ward for about two years and from there went to the Teton Basin in Idaho with his daughter Josephine. He died in Driggs, Idaho, Nov. 27, 1913 and was buried in the Heber Cemetery.

See  
Scottie  
Dawson  
pic

DR. R. R. GREEN  
375 E. 2ND ST. N.  
HEBER CITY, UTAH  
84032

2-2-90

# Bengt Peterson or Person

The Peterson or Person family came from Sweden as converts to the L.D.S. Church. Bengt's father's given name was Per or Pehr, so according to Swedish customs Bengt's surname would be Person or Pehrson, but on reaching America he couldn't make people understand this. Everyone seemed to want to call him Peterson so he gave up trying to make them understand and resigned to the name "Peterson". His first wife's name was Maria. She was born in Sweden in 1827 and died there in 1852. His second wife Johanna Johnson was born in Hoxerod, Sweden. She never lived on Lake Creek. She died in Heber, Utah on 4 April 1877. She and Bengt Person or Peterson had the following children: John Peter born 24 June 1859, in Remoseia, Sweden and married Julia Margaret Fraughton; Eliza Mary born 10 May 1861 in Remoseia, Sweden and married George Homer Fraughton; Jens Aug born 26 April 1864 in Remoseia, Sweden and married Leah Williamson; Amanda Betty born 13 March 1867 in Remoseia, Sweden and married Harvy Weeks; Aldoph Fred born 23 June, 1869 in Halsingburg, Sweden and married Lucy Mass; Emma Sarah born 16 October 1872 in Rockport, Summit County, Utah and married Heber A. Butters.

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Bengt Peterson or Person sold his Lake Creek farm and moved to Buyssville or Daniels as it is now called. He bought a smaller place there. He then moved to Provo and lived in the Second Ward about two years and from there he went to the Teton Basin in Idaho with his daughter, Josephine, and her husband, Rone Olmstead. Bengt died in Driggs, Idaho 27 November 1913 and was buried in the Heber City Cemetery 30 November 1913.

Bengt Peterson and family settled on Lake Creek five miles east of Heber. It was and is a beauty spot with many native trees and shrubs about such as service berry and choke cherry bushes and with wide meadows to entice nature lovers. As roads improved this homestead was often chosen as the site for Ward and Stake parties of various kinds. At these outings swings would be put up for all to enjoy. Ball games, races and other games and sports would be sponsored. Then would come the regular program of songs and speeches before the big event of the day -- the picnic with all its good things including homemade ice cream for everyone. Transportation to these events would be mostly on horse back or with horses and wagons which were fitted up with spring seats for the adults and boards with quilts on them for the children. The roads were rough and full of ruts and dust and the trip took the entire day but no one minded the inconveniences so long as the picnic baskets were well filled and "right side up".

The home was located about a mile above the Lake Creek red sand stone quarry. The house was rather long and "deep" and was built of logs and had windows with small panes in them. The house was always spotlessly clean. I remember the window panes because at one of the church outings I knocked a ball through one of them and besides shattering the glass I spoiled a perfectly lovely afternoon's fun and brought hours of worry on myself for as we heard the crash Emma Peterson said, "Now you'll catch it." And I was sure that I would. I didn't realize that the glass could be replaced for a small sum of money. I just knew that I had been responsible for breaking something. Glass flew all over and left an ugly hole and I had done it and would catch it. I tried to hide, but that was no good. There was no more fun left for me that day, and whenever I think of the Peterson home I think of that broken window pane. There was a spring of cold water back of the Peterson house and after playing ball on the wide green meadows or being pushed to breath taking heights in the tall swings, the active pleasure seekers would often refresh themselves with deep drinks of its babbling offerings.

Years later Jimmy "Scottie" Dawson, a sheep man bought the Peterson place and brought his young Scotch wife from the East to live there. She was a nurse, very refined and cultured. This was

a new and rather difficult life for her, but she faced it with genuine courage and dignity. She did not have much use for the beautiful table and bed linen that she brought with her, but she got joy wherever she could find it. She reared two lovely daughters, Barbara and Lexie, then moved to Provo after "Scottie's" death. The Dawsen property is now owned by the W.J. Bond family.

#### Uncle William

My earliest memories are about Uncle William and his family. He taught me which hand to extend in shaking hands. Even now when I heed to know my right hand I have to look at it and go through the mental experience of stopping in my dish washing to face Uncle William to shake hands with him. He was about the only person ever to give me a "nick" name. He called me "Wizzie". We all loved him. He was short--of medium complexion and wore a dark beard. He was kind, gentle, and thoughtful.

Aunt Mary's house was full of interesting things. She had fancy valances of netted lace around her window drapes. She had a proverbial "Parlor", that was sacred for special events like weddings, funerals and visiting dignitaries. She had a number of choice china figures here that I still remember.

One time some church people from Heber came to their house to hold a cottage meeting. They brought planks in and put quilts on them and made seats all around the dining room. Willie McMillin was there. I don't remember anything that was said or done, but the spirit present was uplifting and did something lovely for me. They sang "Do What is Right", and whenever I hear that song I seem to be back in that home of childhood memories and again I have an uplift.

Uncle William's son, Dan, was about the age of Jane Ann. He was a good looking blond lad. They were great pals. One day while Dan was attending school in Heber, a bigger boy knocked him down and kicked him in the stomach. Dan was never well after that. He just grew weaker and weaker and died within a short time. This cast gloom over our family group. Jane Ann was ill with Rheumatism or something of the sort at the time of Dan's death. I remember father taking her in the sleigh to the top of the foot path from the main road to Uncle William's house, then father carried her down to the house to see Dan. This was quite a distance. Dan was in the parlor. I saw the

china figures that day too.

Sometimes when we were playing at Aunt Mary's at meal time she would get a pan of cold milk-cream and all from the dairy and give us a loaf of lovely home-made bread and then we would all sit around a long clean board bench on the red flag stone walk which was beautifully designed with white clay from the "Clay-hole Hill". We would crumb the bread in the milk and have a feast fit for hungry boys and girls with good appetites.

Years later when I was returning from the funeral of my brother, Rob at Midvale with W. J. Bond and Hazel we saw tongues of flame licking up the sides of this old house that had been vacant for some time and before our eyes this House of Sacred Memories became a heap of red hot charcoal. Something within me died as I saw the rafters and walls fall down.



Because the settlers in Center Creek depended upon farming for their livelihood, irrigation waters were of utmost importance. Some of the earliest community cooperative projects, as well as some of the disputes, transpired because of the need for irrigation water.

The first settlers in the area laid claim to the water in Center Creek and also some of the smaller streams nearby. This meant that new families coming into the area either had to get permission from the older residents to use the water, or look elsewhere for their irrigation needs. The new settlers felt that there was ample water for everyone if it were to be distributed fairly, but try as they would, they couldn't persuade the original settlers to give up much of it.

As a result, many meetings were held in an effort to solve the problem, and it was finally resolved that the newer settlers would go into Center Creek Canyon and look for sites where reservoirs could be built to hold water that was just going to waste. They located and staked out six reservoir sites, and began the task of building the dams. However, the struggles were still not ended because the early settlers then attempted to stop them from filling the dams. Many lively meetings ensued before it was finally decided to organize a reservoir company in 1879 and subsequently the Center Creek Irrigation and Water Company in 1887. New 72 years later these two companies were consolidated in 1902.

With the organization of the Irrigation Company, the settlement of disputes was left up to the officers and directors, who attempted to be as fair as possible. William Richardson Sr. was the first president of the company. Other officers were Parley Murdock, Archibald Sellers and George Harum Sweet.

While the community of Center Creek was growing, another community about two miles north of Center began to develop. This was known as Lake Creek, and began about 1877. Robert Lindsay and his wife Sarah Ann, and William Lindsay and his wife Mary, had been living in Heber, but decided to look around for a site where they might establish more permanent homes. They finally decided on a site three miles east of Heber, near a spring, and in 1877 moved from Heber to begin farming the rich soil.

They built log homes and lived close together until about 1883 when they decided it would be much easier to work the farm land if one family lived in the upper section. They drew lots to see who would move, and Robert got the "cut" to move. He built a two-room log house and later a large, two-story home for his family.

As these men found success in farming the Lake Creek land, others soon began to take up homesteads in the area. Some of these homesteaders included Bengt Peterson, James Nash, William Murdock Sr., William Baird Sr. and John W. Crook.

An excellent sandstone quarry was developed on property owned by John Crook and Herbert Clegg. The stone was used to build many of



A home built from red sandstone by Thomas Phillips in the early days of the Lake Creek area. This photograph was taken of the home in 1911.

the homes in Center Creek, Lake Creek, Heber and even in Salt Lake City. Some of the buildings constructed of the stone were the Stake House and County Court House, the jail and the Central and North Schools, all in Heber. The sand stone was also used for sidewalks and for lining graves.

Lake Creek settlers also had their irrigation water problems as the population began to grow, and on May 2, 1888 the farmers of the area met to formulate plans for an irrigation company. An organizing committee was formed with Robert Broadhead as chairman and Robert Clegg as secretary. By July 6, 1888 the company organization was ready and Mr. Broadhead was elected as the first president. William Lindsay was named secretary with Henry Chauvin as treasurer and John Lee and Henry Clegg as directors.

First stockholders in the company were Henry Clegg, Robert Broadhead, John Lee, Henry Chauvin, James Nash, Elizabeth Nash, a Mrs. Phillips, John Baird, William Baird, James Baird, Robert and William Lindsay, Milton and William Murdock, Orson Lee, Abner Hatch, Bengt Peterson, Mrs. Elisha Jones, Richard Jones, Thomas Campbell, William Blake, Mrs. William Cole, Eric Erickson, William Priestly, John Lloyd, Nels and Ludwig Anderson, Thomas and William Clegg, William Davis, Rasmus Miller, Rasmus Anderson and Charles W. Giles.

For several years the Lake Creek settlement continued, and separate school and church organizations were developed. However, it was gradually assimilated into the Center Creek development and became part of that community.

Industry in Center Creek has largely centered around farming. However, one of the first sawmills in the valley was constructed in Center Creek Canyon by Henry McMullen, William M. Wall and James Adams.

A general store was opened by William Baxter, who also operated a creamery. He bought milk from the farmers, made it into butter and